Patent Ser. No. 4,705,762, incorporated herein by reference. Vanadium oxide nanoparticles are know to exhibit surprisingly high energy densities, as described in copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent application serial no. 08/897,776 now U.S. Patent 5,952,125, entitled "Batteries With Electroactive Nanoparticles," incorporated herein by reference. The production of manganese oxide nanoparticles is described in copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application serial no. 09/188,770 to Kumar et al. filed on November 9, 1998, entitled "Metal Oxide Particles," incorporated herein by reference.

a6

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 4, 5, and 19-21. Please amend claims 1, 10 and 17, as follows:

a7

1. (Amended) A collection of particles comprising metal vanadium oxide, the particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron.

10. (Amended) A method of producing particles of metal vanadium oxide comprising heating a mixture of vanadium oxide particles with a non-vanadium metal compound, the vanadium oxide particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron.

a8

17. (Amended) A battery comprising a positive electrode having active particles comprising metal vanadium oxide within a binder, the active particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron.

a9

Please add the following new claims.

24. The collection of particles of claim 1 wherein the particles have an average diameter less than about 500 nm.

25. The method of claim 10 wherein the vanadium oxide particles having an average diameter less than about 500 nm.

a10

26. The battery of claim 17 wherein the active particles have an average diameter less than about 500 nm.